College Library

HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. X CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1908 No. 17

The Rochester Game

Last Saturday night the Varsity was defeated in the Alumni Gymnasium at Rochester by the score of 26 to 17. The score was a keen disappointment to many supporters of the Yellow because they had hoped to swamp us as badly on their floor as Cornell and Williams had been. But the Varsity went in the game to play hard and for the first time this season played basketball *all* through the game.

Rochester possesses a wonderful dribbler in Cassidy and in the Varsity's attempts to stop him many fouls were called. These Rochester made good, while from ten free throws Hamilton caged the ball but once. The game was fast throughout and at no time was the team outclassed. Rochester scored first on a pretty shot by Harman, but the Buff and Blue soon caged the ball also. Rapid passing, sharp guarding and good floor work were the features of this and the following half. During the first period Harman, B. Ramaker and Cassidy scored for Rochester a total of eleven points while Allen, Sherwin and Roenke made seven for Hamilton, one basket by Sherwin being very spectacular. During the second half both guards went up the floor twice with disastrous results. For Rochester both Ramakers and Cassidy played well, while Roenke and Wilson did good work for Hamilton. This game showed emphatically that the Varsity needs a man to shoot fouls, greater speed in getting rid of the ball and more tendency to follow their men.

The line up :

Rochester (26)		Hamilton (17)
Harman	right forward	Allen
Cassidy	left forward	Welch
B. Ramaker	center	Sherwin
Grant	right guard	Roenke
G. Ramaker	left guard	Wilson

Goals — Harman 1, Cassidy 3, B. Ramaker 5, Allen 2, Sherwin 2, Roenke 3, Wilson 1. Fouls — Harman 8, Allen 1. Referee — Crowley, E. H. S, Umpire — Williams, '08. Timer — Pryor. Length of halves — Twenty minutes.

The Clinton Concert

The Musical Clubs gave their annual concert at the Scollard Opera House in Clinton last Saturday night. It was a much greater success than was expected. The program differed slightly from the Herkimer concert in that the 1908 Tutti-Frutti was given for the first time, and in place of the skit by Messrs. Simmons and Sarles a solo by Mr. Sarles was substituted. Both of these have been worked up in an extremely short time and were given admirably, considering this fact. The Instrumental Club made a much better appearance than in either of the previous concerts, playing with a snap and vim that commanded attention.

Dr. Stryker Lectures

Dr. Stryker delivered an address before the Buffalo Schoolmasters' Association, in the Central High School at Buffalo, Tuesday evening. His topic was "The Relation of the College to the High School." Dr. Stryker emphasized the value of thoroughness over brilliancy, saying that the trouble with modern high schools is that they attempt too much. They try to cover too many subjects. A thorough knowledge of English, Latin, Greek and mathematics are all that anyone needs to enter college. High school secret societies were deplored by Dr. Stryker. Athletics were also put under the ban, since it was maintained that a boy at school should devote his time to his studies. However, he is to be expected to do a man's work in his line.

Those who were present listened with great attention to what Dr. Stryker had to say. He repeated the substance of the lecture before the students on Thursday morning.

Dr. Squires on "Soft Pedagogy"

On Monday afternoon, February third, Dr. Squires delivered a lecture on the "Soft Pedagogy" before the Teachers' Association of Utica. The audience, which filled the Auditorium of the Advanced School, showed marked enthusiasm at Dr. Squires' earnest and fearless treatment of his subject.

Admitting that this is a practical age and that the schoolhouse is the echo-gallery of the practical outside world with its views of life, those methods of instruction which he characterized as "soft pedagogy" were roundly scored by Dr. Squires. The soft pedagogy parades under the paraphernalia of the stereopticon lecture and the visual instruction method, or the "kodak pedagogy." Anything to divert the mind and attention from serious educational work and study! Picture books, magazines, graphic newspapers, popular spectacular lectures, dime novel literature generally — these envisage the popular consciousness of the day and vividly portray the prevailing spirit of our general instruction.

The agricultural movement within the public schools of this state today is a sop to the soft pedagogy and will never succeed in keeping the bright farm boy from leaving the farm and entering the exacting fields of professional life. Those who are attempting to show how the boy should be kept on the farm are playing the charlatan; they do not believe what they say. Let them tell us how the indifferent, unambitious city boy can be

urged out to the country farm life, then they will be attacking a problem worthy of sincere minds.

The high schools, the people's college, fails in that it lacks foundation. The high school is committed to the grub-earning studies; cultural studies; the humanities must be secured for foundation if the high school ever fulfills its function as a safe educator. The present high school exalts money above mind, and our materialized money-mad age is the most scathing commentary on such a system of education.

Colleges and universities are pandering to the demands of a practical age, allowing the vast multitude of promising young men and women to drift into the laboratories to dabble with nature and lose sight of man. Electives have been wide open and the most honorable degree has been conferred for the most sloppy accomplishments. The humanities have been neglected to such an extent that today educators are becoming anxious about the condition of the higher institutions of learning.

"Back to the old foundation" is a wise order. We need, from the first grade to the university, more attention to the fundamental things of education. The fundamentals of a sound training are given up before they are mastered. The higher institutions of learning have committed the same faults in giving up the linguistic and mathematical training that characterized their work some years ago. In a word, they have been emphasizing the materialistic in response to the call of a practical age.

But the current has set in toward the old ideals of education. The soft pedagogy is developing some very determined enemies and the sooner these enemies line up in the elementary schools and eject systematically the sissyism of kindergarten methods, the better for education in all departments. The education of culture is the ideal of our school systems.

Oberlin has succeeded in securing a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

The Inter-Class Debate

After the dreary round of the weekly class debates, it is a decided pleasure to hear a debate as thoughtful, as matured, and as dignified, as that of last Friday evening. Were it not for the disproportionately hard work involved, a frequency of such debates would prove a most excellent step in increasing almost unconsciously the self-respect of every debater in college and in more than justifying the tedium and drudgery of the debate course. Possibly the interest in the question and the dignity of its timeliness, possibly the unusually impressive bearing and appeal of the speakers, was to account for the success, but it is quite certain that never has a more effective subject been presented with more decisiveness and grasp in a Chapel debate.

Unfortunately for keen competition, the decision in favor of the Seniors, arguing the negative side of the question, can not be challenged from any point of view and was only too evident from the early half of the debate. McLean the first speaker for the affirmative, to whom his side looked for an establishment of the connection between the banking, and to a less degree, the financial system with that of the national currency, quite failed in any such representation. From a man who has done such excellent work in opening the less formal class debates, both his side and audience with reason expected more.

Anibal, profiting by this unfortunate impression, made his fine debate more telling by comparison, and as the virtual opener of the debate could hazard many striking assertions his handicapped opponents would have small time to analyze. Undoubtedly, he got the "jump" on the affirmative, and along with his theory of the periodicity of panics established a valuable foundation for the later speakers. And in the rebuttal he made the most of his rather exceptional opportunities. Rifenbark's untimely introduction of the reform measures before his side had established much of anything, and Wallace's inconsequential presentation of the bank regulation problem, afforded his ingenuity a target which his nimbleness did not neglect.

Williams, '09, as second speaker for the affirmative, evidently understood little except his own particular point and not many of the effective details of that. His working to death of the currency stringency during the Western harvest season was typical of the affirmative's desultory, unconvincing, presentation of all of the first round of arguments. Pratt, as second negative, almost fell in much the same error in developing his really important statistics on the overproduction of gold. Few of his hearers understood the situation to start with, and his explanation was obscure and repetitious.

Williams, '08, recognizes his strong advantage lies in his popular appeal through a popular presentation of the conditions, and in a moment becomes a flushed but persuasive little demagogue. He did not produce enough conclusive, unprejudiced, facts, but his line of argument did not permit of many such.

Watson profited by the irresponsibility of his final position to break triumphantly with the cautious arguments of his colleagues, and blow up upon the platform with an "invention of his own" which he was as enamoured of as any White Knight could possibly be. Betraying a disregard for anything that had been, or might effectively be said for his side, he poured an astonishingly variegated, heterogeneous, accumulation of disinterested facts in theatrical profusion upon his startled hearers. But he made a decided impression.

This did not fail to arouse the affirmative from their lethargy, and Williams in his dramatic appeal, Rifenbark through the effectiveness of his critical analysis of his opponents' weakness and the recapitulation of his own points, Wallace by his forceful comprehension of the situation, achieved a greatness — or possibly had it thrust upon them — which did not appear in the Seniors.

Continued on p. 6

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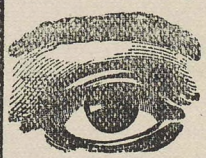

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Reportorial

E. P. GLOVER. R. W. TITUS
J. M. CROSS. J. N. MCMATH

THE COMING NEW offering of the Dramatic Club on February 27th at 3:30 p. m. is ground for pleasurable anticipation. The quality of their presentations is no matter of guesswork: their worth was fully and finally established by the record-breaker they produced last Spring. We will all go to see it and take the girls for the sole reason of its excellence. But there is even a further and more important reason. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Baseball department to cancel the deficit of last season and to make a coach possible. The sum of nearly one hundred dollars that the Track department received from the show of last Spring settled for good the material value of this organization to the college and that these men deserve our further and increased recognition of what they are doing will be made axiomatic by the size of the audience that will greet their coming effort.

RUMOR HAS IT THAT the present Prom. Committee is rather reluctant to provide the conventional decorations. Upon inquiry the reason seems to be that by so doing, as far as they can figure out, they will be forced to pay for their own admission to the dance. This condition of affairs seems lamentable to LIFE. It undoubtedly puts the members of the committee in a mean light. But it is by no means their fault entirely — it is the fault of the system by which the committee in charge is given total financial responsibility in the undertaking, paying of themselves any deficit, and pocketing any surplus that might accrue. Naturally the men are thus tempted to shun expenses, even tho in so doing the success of the occasion may be seriously marred. This system of possible gain to any man nominally working altruistically for his college, does not harmonize with the ideals of the Hill. Will 1908 please take notice?

ACTIVITY ALONG DEBATING lines has resulted in the arrangement of a debate with Union the latter part of March, and in the enemy's territory. Theoretically, we ought to win. Actually, we must do a great deal of hard work before we can hope to be victorious. As in our other activities, the team needs practice. Would it not be an excellent plan to arrange for a debate with some other college on this same question to take place before the debate with Union? In this way the team might be tried out before the important debate and would receive no little benefit from the practice thus afforded. We think the suggestion is worthy of consideration by those interested in debating activities.

"Lit." Critique

In quality, at least, if not in quantity, the February "Lit." continues to live up to the high standard set by the last two issues. It begins with a story by Woollcott, '09, which is perhaps the best thing its author has ever written. This is certainly true of its execution, which is well-nigh perfect. Its not very ingenious plot might easily have been made clumsy and trite by a less skillful pen but under his handling, this nice attention to detail, it gains a marked individuality and freedom from amateurishness which deserves high commendation.

The poetry is, of course, furnished by the indefatigable Truax, '09, and the faithful Dounce, '10. Truax's "Bitter-Sweet" deserves especial notice for it is in his best vein. His sonnets are not so pleasing and the present one, "The Garden of Sleep," is not of his best, its merit depending mainly on the beauty of its first seven lines. Dounce gives us a pretty, fanciful bit of verse entitled "Melody." But give us some more Campus Odes, Dounce. We like the idea of having them and we like the odes.

We are glad to see that Professor Brandt's "Reminiscences" are to be continued. The glimpse he gives us of the Hamilton of the 70's is charming.

A. F. Osborn, '09, relieves us all by giving up versification and returning to prose in the story "Nag or Not?" The local color is skillfully "laid on" and lends realism and added interest to his slender plot. Osborn sometimes may have been accused of "nature-faking" but here he seems thoroughly acquainted with his stage and characters, and his work gains vastly by it.

The Alumniana is extensive and extremely interesting.

Senior Club

Wednesday evening the Senior Club were entertained by the Psi of Psi Upsilon at the Chapter house. It was the first meeting of the club this year and in spite of the extremely bad weather, nearly all of the members of the class were present. The early part of the evening was enjoyably spent in playing cards and after a number of men had demonstrated their inability to comprehend the principles of whist, an excellent lunch was served. The fellows then gathered around the large fireplace in the living room and sang until the wee sma' hours, when the meeting broke up, Psi Upsilon being voted an ideal host.

Junior Whist

Monday evening the Junior Whist Club was entertained by the Theta Delta Chi and Chi Psi fraternities at the latter's lodge. Whist was the game of the evening. At half-past ten a spread was served in the spacious dining hall. After luncheon the room was darkened, and all gathered about the fireplace, where, in the glow of burning embers, many a good song was sung and laughter-making story told. Before adjourning the officers of the club were elected, a list of which may be obtained from the class secretary.

Football Captains

The following is a list of football captains elected for the season of 1908, representing the colleges and universities of the East and Middle West.

Union: Cedric Potter, quarterback.

Colgate: Robert J. Whelan, quarterback.

Syracuse: M. F. Horr, right tackle.

Cornell: Henry Walker, fullback.

Trinity: A. B. Henshaw, halfback.

Wesleyan: M. A. Hammond, tackle and guard.

Brown: G. W. Mayhew, halfback.

Amherst: William W. Kilbourn, left tackle.

Princeton: E. A. Dillon, quarterback.

Dartmouth: G. F. Kennedy, end.

Harvard: Francis H. Burr, left tackle.

Army: Wallace Philoon, center.

Lehigh: Spiers, right halfback.

Michigan: Schultz, center.

Navy: Northcroft, tackle.

Pennsylvania: Hollenbeck, fullback.

Among the Colleges

Syracuse University won the intercollegiate meet at Boston, with Columbia a close second.

The students of the University of California recently presented three old English miracle plays in the Greek Theatre.

A novel plan is in operation at Ohio Wesleyan in connection with the flag rush. The Sophomores and Freshmen are provided with football tickets and the class selling the larger number of tickets receives a ten-foot start in the rush for the flag.

A systematic canvass of the college body was recently instituted at Williams to discover the real sentiment of the undergraduates with regard to upholding an important clause of the Honor System. This is the clause which imposes upon each man the duty of reporting to the committee any violations of the code. Results show that the sentiment is strongly in favor of retaining this much discussed clause. The Sophomore class was the only one in which opinion on this matter was divided, the others being almost unanimous for retaining the clause.

A big University is being planned for Louisville, Ky. A prominent Eastern man has promised to give $500,000 to a $1,000,000 fund provided the remainder can be raised. The Commercial Club of Louisville has already raised $100,000 so that the project seems likely of accomplishment.

Tuskegee has received a gift of between $150,000 to $200,000 from the late Miss Jeanes. Although the college supports athletics, no such provisions were made as in the Swarthmore bequest.

A disastrous fire which occurred recently at Monmouth College destroyed the main building. One life was lost.

Cross-country walks are an innovation at Michigan. The work is required of Freshman girls, but is optional with the other classes.

The students of Colgate have petitioned the faculty for less stringent requirements in athletics, on the grounds that their regulations were more arduous than those of Hamilton and of other colleges with whom they compete. The petition as a whole was denied though some concessions were granted.

There are rumors that the State Legislature intends to abolish fraternities except those of an honorary character at the State University in Wisconsin.

Exchanges

An innovation in the department of Elocution at Syracuse University is to be tried and the students are to get what is called laboratory work. They will be lent out to any function in towns nearby where the entertainment committee feels the need of a speaker. It is estimated that this will work out well in three ways. The needs of the small towns will be supplied, the students will get much needed practice and the name and influence of Syracuse will be spread. Just how the persons who attend the functions to be entertained will regard it, the department of elocution at Syracuse does not attempt to say.

Basketball Schedule

January	10	Union 17	Hamilton 44
"	14	Colgate 34	Hamilton 27
"	24	Cornell 55	Hamilton 25
February	1	Rochester 26	Hamilton 17
"	7	Rochester	at Clinton
"	14	Oberlin	"
"	19	Union	at Schenectady
"	20	Williams	at Williamstown
"	21	Rutgers	at New Brunswick
"	22	C. C. N. Y.	at New York
"	28	N. Y. University	at Clinton
March	6	Colgate	"

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COLLEGE NOTES

— Owing to the stormy weather the concert in Clinton did not draw a full house, tho the townspeople showed up in considerable numbers.

— Last Sunday afternoon Professor White presented the "Call to the Ministry" to the Y. M. C. A. Drawing from his own experience, he spoke most forcefully. His deep earnestness makes every man stop and think. Such talks are a very fine feature of the Y. M. C. A. work.

— "Uncle John" reports that there will be no "Gym Show" given during Junior Week as the fellows are not in shape yet, but this event will be pulled off later in the term.

— A new wrestling mat is to be secured for the Gymnasium as soon as the matter is acted upon by the Advisory Board. "Uncle John" has already selected a fine one, and hopes to have it on the Hill in a few days.

— For 1908 on page 4, column 2, read 1909.

— The new Bowling Alleys in Commons Hall are nearing completion and will be ready for use in two or three days. Dr. Stryker has appointed the following as a committee to draw up rules for the use of the alleys: A. H. Holley, F. M. McLean, '08, Getman, Hopkins, A. F. Osborn and Rifenbark, '09.

— Frederick M. Barrows, '07, has received appointment to the 5th Field Artillery, Battery A, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

— Karl F. Adams, '09, leader of the Instrumental Club, was unable to take the Northern trip owing to a sudden severe illness.

— In the basketball game last night, the score was Rochester 33, Hamilton 25.

— Anibal, '08, Williams, '08, and Watson, '08, have been elected to represent the College in the debate with Union next March. They are to choose an alternate.

— The Junior Whist Club meets at Emerson Hall next Wednesday evening.

— The Musical Clubs left, thirty-five strong, last Wednesday, for their northern trip.

Rev. A. N. Dubies, D.D., of the Auburn Theological Seminary, occupied the Chapel pulpit Sunday afternoon.

— The D. T.'s will be entertained next Wednesday evening by Engs, '10, and Sarles, '10, at the Chi Psi Lodge.

— The January issue of "American Education" contained an article by Prof. Fitch on "Some points of emphasis in College Preparatory Greek."

ALUMNIANA

'81. Theodore L. Cross appeared before the Senate judiciary committee Wednesday at a hearing on Senator Ackroyd's Faxton Library Bill fund. Mr. Cross appeared before the commitee to explain the need of the proposed legislation.

'98. The marriage of Belle Clara Finney, of Binghamton, to William Burgett Carver, of the same place, occurred last Tuesday.

'91. S. H. Adams, of Auburn, spent several days on the Hill with Prof. Brandt last week.

'02. Cards have been received announcing the marriage of John Knox MacLachlan to Ella Mitchell Stone, of Dallas, Texas. The marriage will occur February 11, at Dallas, Texas.

Frank H. Clark is principal of the Friends Academy, at Haviland, Kansas.

'04. The engagement of Miss Nell F. Henderson, of Herkimer, to Dewey J. Carter, is announced.

'05. C. A. Hand, of New York, was recently elected president of a corporation incorporated at $600,000, known as the Spencer Leasing Co., of Greater New York. The company's offices are at 35 Wall Street, and its prospects are said to be excellent.

'06. H. R. Barrows, who has been at Oswego in charge of the Central New York Telephone Exchange, has been made Traffic Agent of the company with headquarters at Utica, and will take up his duties there at once.

A. M. Drummond, of Cornell, spent several days on the Hill lately.

W. G. Miller, for more than a year connected with the local department of the Utica Press, has gone to Jersey City, to take up reportorial duties on the Evening Journal.

Kellogg was on the Hill recently.

'07. Swetman and Trippe were on the Hill Sunday.

Continued from page 2

If the affirmative had established something in their first appearances, their admirable rebuttals should have won them the debate. If McLean had taken pains to ordinate his arguments in conveyable form, and if Wallace, who in all probability had the clearest comprehension of the facts, had exchanged positions with Williams in order to supplement McLean and prepare the way for the proposed remedy, the decision might have been a different one.

However, the classes of '08 and '09 have competed for the last time.

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